

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A valved connector, comprising:
a connector body having a tubular portion extending therefrom; and
a valve body including a valve element with a passage therethrough, said valve body being axially movable with respect to said connector body, at least a portion of said valve body being located on an exterior of said valved connector;

wherein said valve body is movable from a closed position in which said tubular portion of said connector body is exterior to said passage of said valve element to an open position in which said tubular portion of said connector body is applied against said valve element to at least partially open said valve element.

2. (Original) The valved connector of claim 1, wherein, when said valve body is in its open position, said tubular portion of said connector body is applied against a distal surface of said valve element.

3. (Original) The valved connector of claim 1, wherein, when said valve body is in its open position, said tubular portion of said connector body extends through said passage of said valve element.

4. (Original) The valved connector of claim 3, wherein, in moving from said closed position to said open position, said tubular portion extending from said connector body penetrates said valve element from a distal side to a proximal side.

5. (Original) The valved connector of claim 1, wherein said connector body is configured in a Y-shape with a main channel and a lateral channel branching therefrom, said valve body being positioned at a proximal end of said main channel, said connector body having a first attachment means at a distal end of said main channel and a second attachment means at a proximal end of said lateral channel.

6. (Original) The valved connector of claim 5, wherein said first attachment means comprises a male luer lock connector and said second attachment means comprises a female luer lock connector.

7. (Original) The valved connector of claim 1, wherein when said valve body is in said closed position said passage of said valve element closes to form a fluid tight seal.

8. (Original) The valved connector of claim 1, wherein when said valve body is in said open position said connector body presents an uninterrupted channel without obstacles for introducing a secondary device inserted through said connector body.

9. (Original) The valved connector of claim 1, wherein when said valve body is in said closed position said passage of said valve element closes to form a fluid tight seal around a secondary device inserted through said passage.

10. (Original) The valved connector of claim 1, further comprising a sliding seal between said valve body and said connector body.

11. (Original) The valved connector of claim 1, further comprising a sliding seal between said valve element and said tubular portion extending from said connector body.

12. (Original) The valved connector of claim 1, wherein said valve element is made of an elastomeric material.

13. (Currently amended) A valved connector, comprising:
a connector body having a tubular portion extending proximally therefrom, and
a valve body including a valve element with a passage therethrough, said valve body being positioned at a proximal end of said connector body and axially movable with respect to said connector body, at least a portion of said valve body being located on an exterior of said valved connector;

wherein said valve body is movable from a closed position in which said tubular portion of said connector body is exterior to said passage of said valve element to an open position in which said tubular portion of said connector body extends through said passage of said valve element from a distal side to a proximal side of said valve element, wherein when said valve body is in said closed position said passage of said valve element closes to form a fluid tight seal, wherein when said valve body is in said open position said valved connector presents an open channel for introducing a secondary device inserted through said connector body, and wherein when said valve body is in said closed position with the secondary device inserted therethrough, said passage of said valve element closes to form a fluid tight seal around the secondary device.

14. (Previously amended) The valved connector of claim 19, wherein said first attachment means comprises a male luer lock connector and said second attachment means comprises a female luer lock connector.

15. (Previously amended) The valved connector of claim 19, wherein said first attachment means comprises a rotating male luer lock connector and said second attachment means comprises a female luer lock connector.

16. (Original) The valved connector of claim 13, further comprising a sliding seal between said valve body and said connector body.

17. (Original) The valved connector of claim 13, further comprising a sliding seal between said valve element and said tubular portion extending from said connector body.

18. (Original) The valved connector of claim 13, wherein said valve element is made of an elastomeric material.

19. (Previously added) The valved connector of claim 13, wherein said connector body is configured in a Y-shape with a main channel and a lateral channel branching therefrom, said valve body being positioned at a proximal end of said main channel, said connector body having a first attachment means at a distal end of said main channel and a second attachment means at a proximal end of said lateral channel.